

Talking Water

Tuesday 3 April 2012



Murray Irrigation

Delivery entitlement transfer extension

Customers are reminded that the deadline for transfer of annual delivery entitlements is **5.00pm Wednesday 4 April**. This is a one-off extension due to the significant demand for additional delivery entitlements to avoid the casual usage fee in the third quarter account. The casual usage fee applies where the annual water use on an account is greater than 120 percent of delivery entitlements held.

How to avoid casual usage fee

To purchase annual delivery entitlements on the Exchange - call T. 1300 781 431 and **press 2 for the Exchange, then 5 to purchase** (please do not confuse with the option to purchase water). The delivery entitlements listed for sale and their price is in the *Water Exchange* section of our website.

To transfer annual delivery entitlements between landholdings, complete Form 6A. Alternatively, customers can consolidate landholdings into a single account for billing purposes by completing Form F2 – Account Consolidation. Both forms are available from our website under *Forms* or from reception on T. (03) 5898 3300.

Round 2 On-Farm Efficiency Program

The Commonwealth Government has not finalised Murray Irrigation's Round 2 funding agreement. This means the individual landholder contracts will not be available until after Easter. Murray Irrigation will advise via *Talking Water* when the individual landholder contracts will be posted.

Community group presentations

The Murray Group of Concerned Communities (MGCC) is holding presentations on the proposed Murray-Darling Basin Plan and how to make a submission. Community groups have been encouraged to attend.

Session times and venues:

- Berrigan Shire Chambers, Tuesday, 3 April, 5.30-6.30pm
- Finley RS Club, upstairs dining room, Wednesday 4 April, 5.30-6.30pm
- CluBarham, Wednesday 4 April, 5.30-6.30pm
- Deniliquin RSL Club, Mountbatten Room, Wednesday, 4 April 5.30-6.30pm

Basin Plan submissions

With the **April 16 deadline** fast approaching, the NSW Irrigators' Council is encouraging people to make a submission via its website in order to counter environmental group campaigns. Certain activist organisations have orchestrated campaigns to lodge submissions that would, if acted upon, decimate regional

communities. The NSW Irrigators' Council website allows people to create simple Basin Plan submissions. Visit www.nswic.org.au where you will find, under the Basin Plan menu, a link called "make a submission".

Ideas for water saving measures

Communities throughout the Murray-Darling Basin are being asked to put their thinking caps on to help come up with water saving measures. To help offset the social and economic impacts of the proposed Basin Plan, NSW Water Commissioner David Harriss has asked Basin communities for ideas that could save water for the environment or improve the delivery of environmental water to assist in meeting the new sustainable diversion limits under the Plan. Submissions will be received by the NSW Office of Water up until Friday 18 May. For more information about the project, visit the NSW Office of Water website.

Pre-release from Hume Dam

As of last week, the Hume Reservoir storage was 2,712GL (90 percent capacity). River Murray Water has since increased releases to around 10,000ML/day in order to provide some airspace. Operations will manage airspace through autumn and winter given the relatively early re-filling of the storage in March from rainfall.

After hours emergency procedure

Landholders are reminded that in the case of an emergency they must ring the emergency phone number - 1300 657 313 - and state exactly what the emergency is, channel name and location.

Happy Easter

All Murray Irrigation offices will be closed over the Easter weekend from 5.00pm Thursday 5 April and will reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday 10 April. Murray Irrigation's Water Exchange telephone service will remain open over the break and water deliveries are not affected.

A Special *Talking Water* will be issued next Tuesday, focusing on submissions to the proposed Murray-Darling Basin Plan. The regular *Talking Water* will be sent out to customers on Wednesday.

Murray Irrigation wishes everyone a safe and happy Easter.

Anthony Couroupis
General Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security100%
Class B High Security.....100%
Class A Town Water.....100%
Water Efficiency AllocationUp to 18%

Water availability & usage

(03/04/12)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements54%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance 523 GL
On-Farm Usage..... 797 GL
Comprising:
On-Allocation Usage 717 GL
Off-Allocation Usage..... 80 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale20,358 ML
Price Range \$4-\$35
Buy Offer N/A
Last 10 Sales1,185 ML
Price Range\$3 - \$5
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Channel flows

Today
Mulwala Canal 4,500 ML/day
Capacity 10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal..... 730 ML/day
Capacity 2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows..... 2,280 ML/day

Rainfall & evaporation

20/03/12 - 03/04/12 Rain Evap
Finley 0mm 56.5mm
Tullakool 0mm 61.8mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....3,175 GL.....82 %
Hume.....2,692 GL.....90 %
Lake Victoria.....471 GL.....70 %
Menindee Lakes1,489 GL.....86 %
Active Storage..... 7,827 GL.....84 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Jingellic4,375 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoon 913 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point..... 11,800 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 8,470 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge.....4,415 ML/d
M'Bigdee d/s Balranald 9,370 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia 38,160 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy 18,515 ML/d
Flow to SA..... 59,742 ML/d
Murray @ Murray Bridge 0.70 m
Murray to the Sea 194 gates open

**Tune into 'On The Land' every
Tuesday from 6.45am on 1521
2QN.**